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BUT THE RESERVOIRS ARE BRIMMING!

DON'T GO CALLING IT A DROUGHT. YET

METEOROLOGIST: 'Seem to have increasing chances of ending the year dry'



JANE TYSKA — STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

It's another sunny day in Oakland Wednesday as Jean Berry, of Cambridge, Mass., left, and her daughters Amy Brockbank, center, and Alison Berry, of Oakland, have a meal around a fire pit at Forge in Jack London Square.

By Mark Gomez
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With New Year's Eve just days away and no rain in the immediate forecast, the Bay Area is logging one of its driest Decembers on record — a sharp contrast to last year's deluge that helped propel California out of an extended drought.

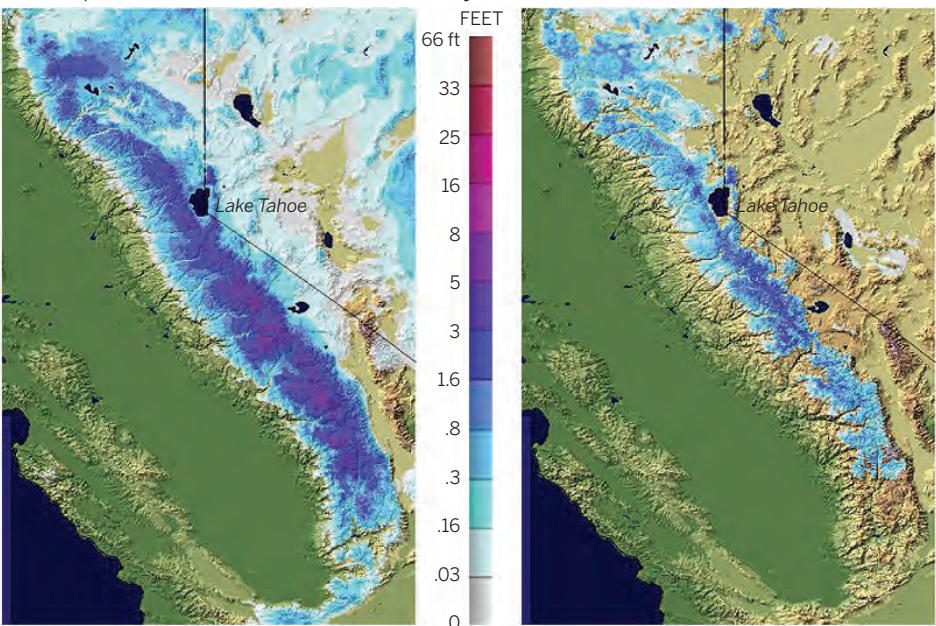
If Bay Area skies remain clear through Sunday, San Jose would experience its second driest December since records began in 1893, and San Francisco its fourth driest dating back to 1849, according to the National Weather Service.

And while it's still early — December, January and February are normally Cal-

DRY » PAGE 8

COMPARING SNOW DEPTH

Snow depth in the Sierra Nevada on Dec. 26, this year and the last.



Source: National Weather Service

BAY AREA NEWS GROUP

TESLA

Model 3 production said to be delayed

Assembly issues collide with ideas for new vehicles: Roadster, semi-truck

By Ethan Baron
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Tesla's critical production ramp-up for its entry-level Model 3 sedan appears to be falling further behind, according to a new report that says the company will produce only 5,000 of the vehicles in the fourth quarter.

Meanwhile, another new report suggested that 2018 — and particularly Model 3 production during the coming year — will

test the company's leading position in the electric car world and play a strong role in whether investors keep putting money into the firm.

The Model 3, which at a starting price of \$35,000 is intended to bring the Palo Alto electric car company into the mainstream auto market, has been plagued by delays. CEO Elon Musk in November confessed to analysts that the car's production was some three months behind schedule.

TESLA » PAGE 8



MARK RALSTON — GETTY IMAGES

The new Tesla Model 3 is falling behind in production. An estimated 5,000 will be produced in the fourth quarter, a third of earlier projections, according to a new report.

JAN. 1

New law targets smoking pot in car

California authorities fearing legalization will trigger an increase in driving while stoned

By Gary Richards
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If you want to jump in a car and smoke some weed on Monday when recreational use of marijuana becomes legal in California, think again.

A new state law makes smoking marijuana while driving or riding as a passenger illegal — a move to combat a type of intoxicated driving officials fear may become more common and more dangerous.

The Christmas Eve death of CHP officer Andrew Camilleri is being blamed on a speeding driver who may have been drunk and stoned when he got behind the wheel and headed south on Interstate 880 and smashed into the highway patrol vehicle parked on the shoulder.

CHP Assistant Chief Ernest Sanchez said Monday the driver was coming home from a party, and "obviously had too much to drink and too much to smoke."

Alcohol-impaired driving is still the most serious problem on California roads. However, since 2006, the percentage of drivers in fatal collisions who have other impairing substances in their system — including THC, the active ingredient in

POT » PAGE 8

"You should be holding the steering wheel — not a joint or an edible. There is nothing recreational, medicinal or legal about hurting someone in a car accident when you're high. Please don't do it."

— Santa Clara County District Attorney Jeff Rosen

PLEA AGREEMENT

Trump lawyers ready to portray Flynn as liar

Sources point to legal strategy in probe of Russian meddling in election

By Carol D. Leonnig
Washington Post

President Donald Trump's legal team plans to cast former national security adviser Michael Flynn as a liar seeking to protect himself if he accuses the president or his senior aides of any wrongdoing, according to three people familiar with the strategy.

The approach would mark a sharp break from Trump's previously sympathetic posture toward Flynn, whom he called a "wonderful man" when Flynn departed the White House in February. Earlier this month, the president did not rule out a possible pardon for Flynn, who is cooperating with special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 election.

Attorneys for Trump and his top advisers have privately expressed confidence that Flynn does not have any evidence that could implicate the president or his White House team. But since Flynn's cooperation agreement with prosecutors was made public earlier this month, the administration has been strategizing how to neutralize

FLYNN » PAGE 7



Flynn

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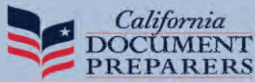


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